

in health insurance premiums than government and big business does.

So is it fair to the 70 percent of the small businesses to do that? Or shouldn't we allow them to go into bigger pools where they can get the same rates that government and big business do, and then say to all small business owners, "You have to do something to take some responsibility for your folks"? I think we should.

This is a fight over jobs. If you don't need as much paperwork, if you have one standard form, instead of 1,500 companies writing thousands of different policies, you won't have to hire as many people to keep up with who shouldn't be covered for something. But you will have—so you will have fewer jobs. Let's level with you. You will have fewer jobs in the clerical department of hospitals, clinics and insurance companies. But you will have more jobs taking care of people in long-term care, producing pharmaceuticals, providing basic primary care in public health clinics in inner cities and depressed rural areas. You will have more jobs. So there will be a job shift.

But we shouldn't pretend that this is easy. This is a real fight, and you have to decide whether that's a change you're willing to undertake. I tell you, I think we are willing to undertake it.

Under our plan, which has been studied by any number of people who are, to put it charitably, nonbiased—everybody who studies it says more than half the people in this country will get the same or better health care for the same or lower cost. Everybody who's studied our plan says that there will be some more costs for some people, principally those who pay nothing now and for young, single, healthy workers who will have to pay a little more so that elderly workers can pay a little less and families can get a little better break. I think that's fair. And I think most young people think that's fair.

This is a great opportunity for our country, because we're having an honest debate. I will try not to paper over the real difficulties. I tried to be frank with you today about what the real difficulties are. But I am telling you, if you want this country to be what it ought to be and if you want every elderly person in this country to have access to a life that

he or she has earned by being a good American and if you want your children and grandchildren to grow up in an America not burdened by debt and not burdened by a Government strangled by health care costs and absolutely unable to invest in jobs and technology and education, in short, if you want us to do the sensible and the humane thing, then help us pass comprehensive health care reform that guarantees insurance to all Americans and has long-term care and has prescription drugs and is fair.

We need your help. Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:40 p.m. in the gymnasium at Middlesex Community College. In his remarks, he referred to Bernice Shepard, AARP board member; Gov. Christine Whitman of New Jersey; former New Jersey Gov. James Florio and his wife, Lorinda; Edison Mayor George Spadaro; Kevin Donnellan, AARP legislative counsel; and Molly Daniels, manager, AARP health care reform help desk.

## Exchange With Reporters on Arrival From Edison, New Jersey

February 16, 1994

### Bosnia

**Q.** Mr. President, are there a lot of differences between the U.N. and NATO on Bosnia Sunday night?

**The President.** No.

**Q.** What is the problem—

**The President.** Well, I don't think there is a problem. The decision of the North Atlantic Council still stands. And the rules are clear: that the heavy artillery either has to be taken out of the safe zone or put under the control of the U.N. either in one of these areas where the weapons can be deposited; or if the weapons cannot be moved, they still must be under the control of the U.N.

So I think the issue is just simply working out the mechanism for control of weapons that are either too high in the mountains or snowbound or otherwise unable to be moved to one of these centralized areas. But so far, it seems to me that based on the detailed conversations I had today with the national security staff and the work the Joints Chiefs are doing that they're just working it out.

They're just trying to work through what reasonable standards of control are. And I have no reason to believe that there's any difference at this time.

**Q.** Do you get the sense the Serbs are cooperating and will cooperate Sunday night?

**The President.** Well, I hope so. It's clear that the NATO allies are still firm. And it's clear to me that the U.N. is working out the real and meaningful definition of control of those weapons.

### **Health Care Reform**

**Q.** [Inaudible]—can your plan pass without senior citizens' group support?

**The President.** Well, I think the senior citizens groups are going to have to fight for long-term health care and for prescription drugs if they want it in there. They're going to have to fight. That's the message I gave them in New Jersey today. I think they will fight.

NOTE: The exchange began at 6:04 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

## **Proclamation 6650—To Amend the Generalized System of Preferences and for Other Purposes**

*February 16, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

1. Pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("Trade Act") (19 U.S.C. 2461 and 2462), and having due regard for the eligibility criteria set forth therein, I have determined that it is appropriate to designate Kazakhstan and Romania as beneficiary developing countries for purposes of the Generalized System of Preferences ("GSP").

2. Proclamation No. 6579 of July 4, 1993, implemented an accelerated schedule of duty elimination and modified the rules of origin under the United States-Canada Free Trade Agreement. Proclamation No. 6641 of December 15, 1993, implemented the North American Free Trade Agreement. Certain conforming changes and technical corrections to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of

the United States ("HTS") were omitted from these proclamations. I have decided that it is appropriate to modify the HTS to make such changes and corrections.

3. Section 604 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of the provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to sections 501 and 604 of the Trade Act, do proclaim that:

(1) General note 4(a) to the HTS, listing those countries whose products are eligible for benefits of the GSP, is modified by inserting "Kazakhstan" and "Romania" in alphabetical order in the enumeration of independent countries.

(2) In order to make conforming changes and technical corrections in certain HTS provisions, pursuant to actions taken in Proclamation No. 6579 and Proclamation No. 6641, the HTS and Proclamation No. 6641 are modified as provided in the annex to this proclamation, effective as of the dates specified in such annex.

(3) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive orders inconsistent with the provisions of this proclamation are hereby superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

(4) The modifications to the HTS made by paragraph (1) of this proclamation shall be effective with respect to articles that are: (i) imported on or after January 1, 1976, and (ii) entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 15 days after the date of publication of this proclamation in the *Federal Register*.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

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